Child Labour

284. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether SNS Foundation, Gurgaon has reported in a survey that ten thousand child labour exit in the district of Gurgaon, Haryana;

(b) whether Government substantiate these figures;

(c) whether Government have conducted any study to find out the number of child labour in the country; if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) what are the measures Government plan to adopt to rehabilitate the child labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Job Assurance

285. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was assured to create one million jobs per year;

(b) if so, the number of jobs created per year during the last three years; and

(c) the number of registered unemployed persons as on the 31st March, 1999 and 31st March, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Planning Commission constituted a Special Group headed by Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission to prepare the strategy and programme for employment generation targeting 10 million employment opportunities per year over the Tenth Plan Period. The Special Group submitted its report in May 2002. The recommendation of the Special Group will be taken into account while implementing programmes for employment generation during the 10th Plan period. As per the report maximum 5 to 6 millions jobs will be created in the economy in the normal growth process. The remaining will be generated through Special Employment Generation Programmes.

(c) Number of job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live register of employment exchanges in the country as on 31st March, 1999 and 31st March, 2002 was of the order of 4.0 crore and 4.2 crore respectively.

Re-Inventing EPF-India

286. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has recently launched a project called 'Re-inventing Employees Provident Fund-India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Employees Provident Fund Organisation has taken up the task of modernization through the project, 'Re-inventing EPF India' with the mission to re-invent the Organisation and reposition Employees' Provident Fund Organisation with the following goals:

(i) Allotment of permanent and unique number to Provident Fund members for identification. This will be known as National Social Security Number.

(ii) Networking of all Provident Fund offices to facilitate online settlement of claims within two to three days.

(iii) To provide anywhere, anytime facility to customers and to develop a mechanism for monitoring of compliance online and on monthly basis.

The process has already started. The time frame for it to become operational cannot be indicated at this stage.